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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/317,103	05/21/1999	TRACY LEE NELSON	1176	8645

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EXAMINER	
AGDEPPA, HECTOR A	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2642	

DATE MAILED: 12/19/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/317,103	Applicant(s) NELSON ET AL.	
	Examiner Hector A. Agdeppa	Art Unit 2642	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *26 September 2002* .

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *108-127* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *108-127* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11)☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a)☐ approved b)☐ disapproved by the Examiner.

If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ .
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: .

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is in response to applicant's amendment filed on 9/26/02. Claim108-127 are now pending in the present application. **This action is made final.**

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

2. Claims 108 – 127 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent 5,483,589 (Ishida et al.)

As to claims 108 and 118, Ishida et al. teach an apparatus and method for routing control for a composite network wherein there are multiple nodes capable of receiving call information and depending on various received identifiers determine how to route that call. Inherently or at the least, obviously, each of these nodes has signaling processors embodied in the form of path selecting unit 103, number identifying unit, 101, etc.

Furthermore, each of these signal processors has access to a call processing table for selecting identifiers to "classify" the calls and determining how to route calls using the various identifiers such as an activation identifier (AI), node identifier (CC), connection type identifier (V/F), etc. Ishida et al. teach that the contemplated network consists of a plurality of connection systems and other networks as well wherein the system may route calls using any combination of nodes or outside networks such as the PSTN.

Moreover, it is also inherent or at the least obvious that the tables used in Ishida et al. must be updated as most any telephonic system using tables or databases inasmuch as even in Ishida et al., it is contemplated that the system is advantageous because callers using it do not have to indicate him/herself whether private/public connections are allowed, leaving the system to automatically figure it out. Also contemplated is routing calls by the most economical route. Such motivation would make it inherent or at the least obvious, that the latest routing information and identifiers are needed to provide the caller with the most economical routing or even if certain privileges or allowances regarding private/public connections undoubtedly change. (Col. 1, lines 52 – 60, Col. 2, line 40 – Col. 3, line 8, Col. 7, line 54 – Col. 9, line 10)

As to claims 109, 111, 113 – 115, 119, 121, and 123 – 125, such is inherent in Ishida et al. There must be an MMI (Man machine interface) in order to update the tables. If done automatically, then it would be obvious then to revert to a manual means of entering information where again, an MMI would be inherently necessary. Also inherent if not obvious is receiving the call data from an operations center. In most any telecommunications system there is an operations center from which such data is sent. Even if not, the data must be received from somewhere and whether it comes from separate nodes or servers or centers, which is old and well known, or from a single operations center, which is also old and well known, either would be obvious. Also, Ishida et al. in fig. 6 teach the use of and storage of routing tables and tables having the called number. As to the ANI, Ishida et al. teach determining automatically whether or not certain connections may be made depending on where the caller is calling from and

where the caller is calling to. Therefore it would be inherent, that the ANI information would be needed and stored as a means of determining how to route the calls.

As to claims 110 and 120, If manual entering of data into the call processing tables is done as addressed above, obviously like in almost any other provisioning scenario/system, access will be limited to certain personnel inherently requiring a user security configuration system for giving those certain operators/personnel the required access.

As to claims 112 and 122, a regional craft view system is employed to simply allow an operations center to view configurations of the signaling processor. In any telecommunications system, one will find an operations center allowing certain personnel to look at/change a system's configuration. As such, it would be obvious if not inherent to include such a feature in the invention of Ishida et al. Furthermore, whether the mechanism used to view configuration is a regional craft view or any other type of mechanism, these are simply obvious design and preference choices for one skilled in the art.

As to claims 116, 117, 126, and 127, such is merely the broadband aspect of the claimed invention. Inasmuch as Ishida et al. teach handling both voice and fax, and the fact that many well known systems now allow broadband communications, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art to apply the methods used in Ishida et al. in a broadband platform, thus allowing for ATM to non-ATM and TDM communications.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 108 - 127 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. US Pat. 5,226,075 (Funk et al) teach a method and apparatus for numbering and routing calls through a communication network.

5. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hector A. Agdeppa whose telephone number is 703-305-1844. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon thru Fri 9:30am - 6:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ahmad F. Matar can be reached on 703-305-4731. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-872-9314 for regular communications and 703-872-9314 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-4700.

H.A.A.
December 11, 2002

AHMAD F. MATAR
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600